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Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1951





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BOROUGH OF BEXHILL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. O. ALEXANDER.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MISS A. F. CLAXTON.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

(MR. COUNCILLOR G. H. GOODWIN, J.P.)

MR. ALDERMAN A. ASHBY, J.P.

„ R. F. BOTTING.

MR. COUNCILLOR J. BAKER.

COUNCILLOR MRS. P. M. BURRELL.

MR. COUNCILLOR G. B. COGHAN.

„ A. H. STONE.

„ N. J. TRILL

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

R. J. Toleman, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

W. H. Ball, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors :

C. E. Lockley, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

F. B. Elliott, Cert., S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

Disinfecting Officer and General Assistant :

G. Chalmers.

Rodent Operator :

D. Evenden.

Maternity and Child Welfare :

Bexhill Nursing Association and East Sussex County Council :

M. & C.W. and Ante-Natal Clinics—L. M. Rhodes-Clooney,
M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P.

Health Visitors and District Nurses:

Bexhill Nursing Association and East Sussex County Council:

Present Staff:

Full-time Health Visitors:

Miss R. Raison, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.

Miss E. E. Harris, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.

Mrs. M. E. Bielecki, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (appointed 28th November, 1951).

Nurses/Midwives:

Miss N. W. Spark, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Miss D. E. Jordan, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (appointed 17th September, 1951).

Miss E. M. Robson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., (appointed 1st October, 1951).

Miss E. W. L. Woods, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.

Changes during 1951:

Nurses/Midwives:

Miss W. A. Fordyce, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (left 19th October, 1951).

Miss F. Oliver, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (left 16th September 1951).

Miss L. M. Pitts, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (left 16th September, 1951).

Tuberculosis:

East Sussex County Council:

R. Dingley, M.A., M.D. (Chest Physician).

Venereal Diseases:

Royal East Sussex County Hospital, Hastings:

O. Jeral, M.D.

Clerks:

K. F. Westwood.

H. J. Stentiford.

Miss N. W. McEvoy.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BEXHILL.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1951, which is arranged in accordance with the instructions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 42/51, dated 10th December, 1951.

Staff

Changes during 1951

Mr. F. B. Elliott,

Sanitary Inspector. Appointed 29th June, 1951.

Mr. F. Wilson,

Chief Clerk. Left 2nd May, 1951.

Mr. Westwood.

Appointed Chief Clerk 29th June, 1951.

Mr. H. J. Stentiford,

Second Clerk.

Appointed 28th July, 1951.

Mr. A. E. Hatch,

Rodent Operator.

Left 6th October, 1951.

Mr. D. Evenden.

Appointed Rodent Operator 8th November, 1951

The appointment of an additional Sanitary Inspector was agreed to in the summer and Mr. F. B. Elliott was duly appointed and took up his duties on 13th August. This new appointment gave the Department the opportunity to divide the town into three areas, with a Sanitary Inspector in charge of each, the Chief Inspector himself being responsible for overall supervision and direction as well as being in charge of the outlying areas, including Pebsham and Normans Bay, areas of sub-standard development and requiring constant vigilance as they present peculiar and special problems continually. The new system, which prevents overlapping, has worked admirably and following-up inspections where required are being more speedily carried out and more visits being undertaken.

General Standard of Health

This was maintained at a very satisfactory level, in spite of the continuation of the measles outbreak of 1950 and an increase in the number of whooping cough cases during the year; there occurred no deaths from either disease.

Reference to infectious diseases will be found in the appropriate section of the report.

Vital Statistics

These are shown in full in the appropriate sections. The births fell from 289 to 274, a rate of 10.88 to 10.53 (England and Wales, 15.5). Deaths rose from 421 to 455 (rates, crude, 15.86 to 21.32; rates, corrected, 10.33 to 13.86; England and Wales, 12.5).

The crude death rate is not an accurate figure and allowance must be made for age and sex distribution, otherwise the death rate will afford no accurate means of comparing the healthiness of one district with another and use is therefore made of a comparative factor supplied by the Registrar General.

Infantile Mortality

There were no deaths of puerperal cause, but the number of infant deaths (that is of those up to one year of age) rose from 5 to 8 (rate, 17.3 to 29.2). Reference to the table of causes of infant deaths shows that three occurred in the first two weeks of life and that all told five deaths were unavoidable.

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases during the year.

Smallpox

During January and February, 1951 occurred the outbreak of virulent smallpox at Brighton. This outbreak caused much additional work in the Department in the surveillance of contacts, in the investigation of suspected cases at the request of general practitioners, and a great increase in the number of vaccinations both by general practitioners and public health staff, in addition to which the Medical Officer of Health as Ministry of Health Consultant was given permission to travel to Brighton daily as a member of the team dealing with the epidemic. Thanks to the vigilance of all concerned the epidemic was confined to Brighton.

Sanitary Circumstances

Full details will be found in the appropriate section of the report which has been compiled by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. I am pleased again to testify to the part played by this officer and his assistants, whose work at all times was most thorough and efficient. I can but emphasise what has been said in previous reports.

The administration and control of the public conveniences were transferred to the Health Department from the Surveyor's Department on 1st August, 1951. The change was accomplished smoothly and this essential public service is being efficiently run and well maintained under the direct supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Housing

Again it is satisfactory to be able to state that progress in housing continued and in time the waiting list will be reduced to reasonable proportions.

It is true to say that a large number of applicants for housing and rehousing make their way to the Department for help and guidance in their problems. It should be again pointed out that the Housing Committee review all applications sympathetically and take all factors into consideration in their allocations and, while it is impossible to satisfy all and individual demands, a very difficult task is carried out impartially and thoroughly. It is pleasing to state that the Housing and Health Departments continue to work together in a most friendly relationship.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, as amended by the National Assistance Act, 1951

On a Magistrate's Order upon the application of the Medical Officer of Health and a medical practitioner's certificate, a woman of 78 years was removed to St. Helen's Hospital, Hastings, for a period of three weeks, being in need of care and attention and living under extremely insanitary conditions. The patient was infirm and physically incapacitated by reason of age and arterial disease. The patient was admitted on 14th September, 1951, and died on 4th October, 1951, viz. exactly 20 days after admission.

At the same time the patient's husband elected to go into St. Helen's Hospital voluntarily, as he stated he could not look after himself and carry out essential domestic duties. His state of health was poor and he had only partially benefited from a severe abdominal operation two years before.

National Health Service Act, 1946

The Medical Officer of Health is responsible to the County Medical Officer of Health for the Vaccination and Immunisation Services in the Borough and also for the administration (other than financial and technical aspects) of the Ambulance Service which is staffed by the officers and personnel of the Bexhill Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Statistics for both the above services will be found in the appropriate sections of this report, but it should be stated here that, thanks to the Medical Practitioners in Bexhill, the Diphtheria Immunisation Service is most efficient and the fact that there has been only one case of Diphtheria in five years is a sufficient tribute to its value.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Alexander, for her encouragement and keenness on all occasions and also all members of the Health Committee for their support.

The staff of the Department, as usual, has been a most efficient and loyal team, and while particularly mentioning Mr. Ball, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. Westwood, Chief Clerk, for their efficient handling of their appropriate sections, I am greatly indebted to all members of the staff for their continued efforts during the year.

As in previous years, the Town Clerk has been ever ready to help and advise in all cases of difficulty as indeed have all Chief Officers and their staffs, and I am most grateful to them all for their ever ready assistance on all occasions, and finally also thank you to the Press for their willing co-operation and valuable publicity.

Mr. Mayor, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honour to be your obedient servant,

R. J. TOLEMAN,

August, 1952.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,015 acres
Population	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	26,030
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,508
Number of inhabited flats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,464
Rateable value as at 31st March, 1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£378,911
General Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20s. in £
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,526 3s. 7d.
(End of financial year, 1951-52)								

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Bexhill is situated on the South Coast, 62 miles from London, 5 miles west of Hastings and 13 miles east of Eastbourne.

The southern half of the town is situated mainly on Ashdown Sand. North of the railway line (Brighton section) Wadhurst clay forms the surface beds, with areas of Tunbridge Wells sand in the more elevated ground. In the Galley Hill area, Fairlight clays are in evidence, capped in places by Ashdown sand.

The area of the Borough is 8,015 acres, exclusive of 521 acres of foreshore, and rises on gentle slopes behind the sea front to 150 ft. above sea level.

The district is well supplied with public parks and recreation grounds, which have an acreage of 91 acres approximately.

The character of the population is residential for the most part, many retired professional and business people making it their permanent abode, and in consequence the average age of a large number of the residents is higher than usual.

It is also a select seaside resort, so that there are a relatively large number of hotels and apartment houses.

There is no particular occupation or manufacture which is detrimental to the health of the inhabitants.

By virtue of its situation and southerly aspect it always enjoys a maximum of sunshine and an exceptionally even climate, the atmosphere being particularly dry and sunny, with a minimum of fogs, mist, snow and frost.

Its proximity to the sea minimises the daily temperature range and the annual temperature range and its annual rainfall is below that for England and Wales generally.

The acreage is fairly large for a town with a population below 30,000 and thus there are no congested areas, while there remain numerous suitable sites for building and development.

Apart from the residential area of Cooden and the main shopping and boarding house areas, thriving suburbs are found at Sidley, Little Common and the Old Town, where exist strong individuality and each has a thriving Community Centre in spite of the lack of suitable premises. The number of Residential Schools, chiefly Girls' and Preparatory Schools, that are found, indicate its value as a Scholastic Centre, while the existence of numerous Convalescent Homes for adults and children proves its value as a recuperative centre for those recovering from operations and long illnesses.

Adequate railway and other transport facilities exist with easy access to London, neighbouring country and rural areas ; a well-planned shopping centre and numerous voluntary societies catering for all classes and tastes, together with social and entertainment amenities combine to make Bexhill an extremely attractive town for residential and holiday purposes.

METEOROLOGY

I am indebted to Mr. H. J. Sargent, the Borough Meteorologist, for the following report for 1951:

Meteorological observations at Bexhill were carried on throughout the year 1951; daily telegraphic reports and monthly returns were transmitted to the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, and information was supplied to the Press, to publishers of year-books, to local municipal departments and to various inquirers.

Excessive rainfall was experienced in 1951, the year's total fall, 40.0 inches, being more than 11 inches above the normal (28.79 inches). For January, February, and March, the rainfall totalled 13.4 inches, more than twice the normal amount for the first quarter. August was notably wet, with a fall of 5.34 inches (normal, 2.30 inches), and September and November both contributed substantial amounts to the year's total.

The duration of sunshine for the year was 1,750.7 hours, 61.6 hours less than the normal.

The mean temperature was 50.7° (normal 50.2°). There were no particularly hot spells: the maximum temperature for the year was 76°, attained on 30th July. The winter months were mild. November's mean temperature, 49.8°, was 3.9° above the normal.

The full records of daily observations of air pressure, temperatures, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, clouds, visibility, and wind, with notes on the general weather conditions throughout the year, are available for reference.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

					Males	Females	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	...	...	...	...	137	122	259
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	10	5	15
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	---	---	10.53
(Comparability Factor 1.22 ; adjusted Birth Rate)—						---	12.8
Stillbirths : Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	---	---	---
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	---	---	.2
Deaths	...	...	...	...	203	252	455
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	---	---	21.32
(Comparability Factor 0.65 ; adjusted Death Rate)—						---	13.86
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	---	---	---
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	---	---	---
Death rate of Infants under one year of age :							29.2
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	---	---	82
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	---	---	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	---	---	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	---	---	Nil
Deaths from Scarlet Fever (all ages)	...	...	...	...	---	---	Nil

TABLE 1
CAUSES OF DEATH

All Causes						Male 203	Female 252
1.	Tuberculosis respiratory	..	..	..	..	5	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	..	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	—	—
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	—	2
10.	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	..	..	8	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	9	4
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	—	10
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	—	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	24	19
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	1	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	1	2
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	21	38
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	34	27
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	14	5
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	36	65
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	9	3
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	1	4
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	11	11
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	1	6
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	2	1
26.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	..	..	..	..	4	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	—	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	14	31
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	1	—
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	3	2
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	—	5
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	—	—

TABLE 2
BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFEC-
TIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1951
(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns. (Resident Populations 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administra- tive County
Births :	Rates per 1,000 Home Population			
Live	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8
Still	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37
Deaths :				
All causes	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1
Typhoid and Para- typhoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough ..	00.1	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38
Influenza	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Acute Poliomyelitis incl. Polioencephalitis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61
Notifications (Corrected):				
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever ..	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10
Whooping Cough ..	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64
Pneumonia	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.72
Acute Poliomyelitis incl. Polioencephalitis :				
Paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Non-paralytic	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Food Poisoning	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23
Deaths	Rates per 1,000 Births Live			
All causes under 1 year of age	29.6(a)	33.9	27.6	26.4
Enteritis and Diar- rhœa under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)			
Notifications (Corrected):				
Puerperal Fever	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90
and Pyrexia				

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Intermediate List No. and cause		No. of deaths	Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
A115	Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	70	0.10	
A116	Abortion with toxæmia	3	0.00	0
	Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	167	0.24	
A117	Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	91	0.13	
A118	Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	37	0.05	4
A119	Abortion with sepsis	66	0.09	7
A120	Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ..	125	0.18	

TABLE 3

INFANTILE DEATHS, 1951. TABLE SHOWING CAUSES AND AGES AT DEATH

Cause	Age in Weeks				Total under 1 Month	Age in Months					Total
	-1	-2	-3	-4		1+	2+	3+	6+	9-12	
Hydrocephalus ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pul. Atelectasis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Broncho-Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hæmorrhagic Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ac. Intussusception	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Operation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Asphyxiation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

TABLE 4

INFANTILE DEATHS SHOWN BY CAUSES OF DEATH AND WARD DISTRIBUTION

Ward	Hydrocephalus	Pul. Atelectasis	Prematurity	Br'cho Pneumonia	Hæmorrhagic P'monia	Ac. Intussuc'n Op't'n	Asphyxiation	Total
Old Town ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Egerton Park	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Central ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
St. Mark's ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sidley ..	1	—	2	—	—	1	1	5
Sackville ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	8

TABLE 5
AGE AT DEATH—ALL CASES, 1951

	Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	Total
Males ..	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	13	39	138	203
Females ..	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	10	29	202	252

TABLE 6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1951 SHOWN BY WARDS

Disease	Ward						Total
	Central	Egerton Park	Old Town	Sackville	St. Mark's	Sidley	
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	11	8	20	4	22	45	110
Measles ..	62	75	58	20	39	96	350
Scarlet Fever..	7	6	4	2	9	12	40
Pneumonia ..	1	—	2	2	2	3	10
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	1	—	1	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	2	—	—	—	3
Ac. Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	83	89	86	29	72	157	516
Tuberculosis Notifications							28
							544

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The personnel of the medical, nursing and sanitary staff of the borough is incorporated at the beginning of the report.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological and pathological examinations continued to be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at their Brighton laboratory, under Dr. J. E. Jameson, Director.

Ambulance Facilities

Since 5th July, 1948, Ambulance Services, previously operated by the Bexhill Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, became the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, viz. the East Sussex County Council, whose scheme includes Bexhill.

The agents of the authority are the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who provide drivers and attendants, while the servicing and repairs of the vehicles are usually done by a firm of motor engineers. In Bexhill this is the practice, and the stationing of the vehicles at a public garage ensures prompt repairs and attendances to calls, roadworthy vehicles and regular servicing.

To the Medical Officer of Health has been delegated by the County Medical Officer of Health the duties of regular inspection of the vehicles to see that they are roadworthy, adequately equipped and kept in a clean and tidy manner and, in addition, he advises the staff on the legitimacy or otherwise of doubtful calls, especially long-distance ones.

The Ambulance Service is responsible for the calls in its area and, in addition, will assist the adjacent areas to deal with calls if called upon, provided these calls do not originate outside the County Council area. In other words, if Bexhill ambulances take cases to other parts of the county then these cases, as far as return is concerned, become the responsibility of the Local Health Authority of the area to which they are taken.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the service has been most efficiently run since the commencement and thanks are due to Mr. A. Russell and his staff for the attention to and housing of the vehicles, to the Transport Officer, officers and men of the Bexhill Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade for their courtesy and efficiency on all occasions, and to the members of the Bexhill Ambulance Brigade Committee under the able chairmanship of Alderman Ashby and its hardworking Secretary, Mr. G. Mitchell, for ensuring the smooth working of the service and dealing with domestic problems as they arise.

The Hospital Car Service caters for non-emergencies and for those cases that do not require to be conveyed on stretchers, etc., and is recruited from private car owners who are paid on a mileage basis. This service is supplementary to, but an integral part of, the Ambulance Service, and is administered from the Red Cross Headquarters at 28

Station Road. Applications for cars have to be supported by a medical certificate and 48 hours' notice is required.

The following tables give in full the figures for 1951 and a summary of the figures for the previous years since the Act came into force in July, 1948. The rates of increase in the local and long-distance calls are less marked and it is possible that maximum figures are being approached.

TABLE 7
CALLS, 1951—Three Ambulances

	Local	District, 30 Mile Radius	Casualties	Long Distance	Total Calls	Total Mileage
January ..	98	2	9	3	112	1,103
February ..	115	4	6	7	132	2,174
March ..	102	—	5	6	113	1,869
April ..	94	3	6	1	104	1,128
May ..	82	2	15	8	107	1,937
June ..	112	2	11	3	128	1,352
July ..	97	1	23	6	127	1,843
August ..	123	2	8	8	141	2,032
September ..	89	1	7	6	103	1,730
October ..	124	4	12	8	148	2,557
November ..	103	—	8	5	116	1,698
December ..	83	2	8	4	97	1,410
TOTALS	1222	23	118	65	1428	20,833

TABLE 8
CALLS, 1948—1950

Year	Local	District, 30-Mile Radius	Casual- ties	Long Distance	Total Calls	Total Mileage
1948 (July/Dec.)	274	55	49	38	416	8,082
1949	726	12	79	52	869	15,382
1950*	1,041	16	117	59	1,235	18,970

*Two ambulances, January/April; three ambulances, May/December

Nursing in the Home

During 1950 the following number of cases were attended by the District Nurses and Health Visitors :

Maternity and Midwifery	...	...	91
General cases	...	...	476

The visits paid were :

Maternity and Midwifery	...	...	1,656
General Nursing	...	...	6,458
Casual Visits	...	...	1,099
Health Visits	...	...	8,133
Ante Natal	...	...	974

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Minor Ailments Clinic for School Children, London Road Clinic, Bexhill :	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m.
Dental Clinic for School Children, London Road Clinic, Bexhill	By appointment
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, London Road Clinic, Bexhill	Every Thursday at 2.30 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic, London Road Clinic, Bexhill	1st Fridays, 3rd Wednesdays and 4th Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m.
Dental Clinic for Mothers and Toddlers, London Road Clinic, Bexhill :	Every month, by appointment.
Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic, London Road Clinic, Bexhill :	Mondays, as required, 2.30 p.m.
Vaccination Clinic : London Road Clinic, Bexhill	First Wednesday in Month at 2.15 p.m.
Tuberculosis Dispensary, London Road Clinic, Bexhill :	Every Monday, 3 p.m.
Venereal Disease Clinic, Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings :	By appointment

TABLE 9**Attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare, Ante-Natal and Dental Clinics****Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic****Total Attendances :**

Toddlers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	550
Infants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,279

Number of children who attended for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :

(i) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	140
(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	12

Percentage of notified births represented by the number in (i)	51.1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

Total number of children under 5 years who attended the Centre during the year and who, at the end of the year, were :

(i) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	121
(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	127

Ante-Natal Clinic

Number of expectant mothers attending	...	...	32
Number of attendances	...	...	68

Dental Clinic

Number of attendances by Mothers	...	...	24
Number of attendances by Infants	...	...	77

Health Visitors

The following statement shows the visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year :

To expectant mothers :

First visits...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Total visits	...	...	...	...	...	50

To infants under 1 year :

First visits...	...	...	...	...	...	262
Total visits	...	...	...	...	...	2,768

To children aged 1 to 5 years	5,651
-------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Maternity and Nursing Homes

The East Sussex County Council is the local supervising Authority under Part VI of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The following particulars with reference to the Homes in Bexhill have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health :

Total number of homes registered in the Borough	...	8
Number of applications for registration during 1951	...	3
Homes registered during the year	...	—
Orders made refusing or cancelling registration	...	—
Nursing homes closed down during the year by owners	...	—

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

Under the Bexhill Corporation Act, 1925, the control of the water supply is vested in the Bexhill Corporation.

(a) The water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory with regard to quality and the quantity.

(b) Bacteriological examinations of the raw water and subsequent treatment at the various pumping stations are carried out.

During 1951 a sample was submitted each month for bacteriological and/or chemical examinations of the water supplied to the consumers and in all cases the standard was that required of a public supply.

(c) The water of the Bexhill Area is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(d) There are within the Borough 6,356 dwellinghouses and 1,519 flats supplied direct from the public water mains, and in addition there are 118 houses covered by standpipe supplies and 457 metered trade supplies.

In the statutory area outside the Borough there are 792 dwellinghouses directly connected with the public mains, and in addition there are 226 metered supplies.

The average quantity of water used daily during 1951 in the statutory area was 1,178,000 gallons, which represents an increase of 3,000 gallons per day as compared with 1950.

WATER ANALYSIS

Copy of Report on Sample of Water taken on 11th December, 1951.

High Level

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear and bright
Colour	...	...	...	...	Less than 10
pH	...	...	...	...	8.5
Electric Conductivity	...	...	...	...	360
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	...	36
Hardness—Carbonate	...	...	...	...	105
Non-Carbonate	...	...	...	...	30
Total	...	...	...	...	135
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.8
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.033
Metals	...	...	...	...	Iron 0.18 (other metals absent)
Turbidity	...	...	...	...	Nil
Odour	...	...	...	...	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	Absent
Total Solids	...	...	...	...	240
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	105
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	Absent
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	...	0.60
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	...	Absent

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in :

1 day at 37° C.	...	...	...	2
2 days at 37° C.	...	...	...	3
3 days at 20° C.	...	...	...	1
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction	Absent from 100 ml.			
Bact. Coli (Type 1)	...	...	...	Absent from 100 ml.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	...	...	...	Present in 100 ml. Absent from 10 ml.

Report

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The hardness of the water and its content of mineral and saline constituents are very moderate, and its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

2. Drainage and Sewerage

No new sewer construction has been carried out during the year other than that necessary on Council housing development, but good progress has been made with the proposal for sewerage Turkey Road which will result in the removal of cesspool drainage along this road.

Various blockages and collapses of the sewerage system have been satisfactorily dealt with as they have arisen and routine annual clearing of sewers has been carried out during the year on receipt of orders from the respective owners.

3. Rivers and Streams

No action was found to be necessary with regard to the pollution of rivers and streams in the Borough during the year.

4. Public Cleansing

The removal and disposal of house refuse, carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department, has proceeded satisfactorily. The number of properties in the Borough has continued to increase during the year, but despite this a weekly collection has been maintained.

The separation of waste paper from the refuse has increased the revenue from salvage and the consequent saving in space which has resulted therefrom has enabled the use of St. Mary's Tip to be continued for disposal purposes. Transfer to another site is expected to become necessary during the next twelve months.

5. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

During 1951, 7,828 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors. The nature of the inspections, together with the list of notices served and the results of such notices, are included in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector which appears at the end of this Report.

6. Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

During the year 182 visits were paid to Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. Eight notices were served during the year, of which 8 were complied with.

7. Moveable Dwellings

The Town has continued to be popular for the purpose of annual camping by the Scouting, Girl Guides, Boys' Brigade and similar organisations; frequent visits have been paid to such camping sites. It has been a noticeable feature that these visits by Officers from the Department have at all times been welcomed and the co-operation of all organisations has always been willingly forthcoming. The camps have been conducted in a most orderly manner.

Licensed sites for which 14 licences were granted to operate during the year were also strictly supervised, and in all 70 visits were paid to caravan and camping sites during 1951.

8. Smoke Abatement

There are eight premises within the Borough where processes are carried out which may cause the emission of smoke and grit. It has not been found necessary to take any action with regard to these premises.

9. Swimming Baths and Pools

During the season supervision of the general sanitary conditions and sampling of bath water was carried out at the Corporation Swimming Bath in Egerton Park. Fourteen samples were taken and submitted for analysis, all of which proved to be satisfactory.

10. Eradication of Vermin

Four complaints were received regarding vermin infestation by bed bugs in respect of three private premises and one requisitioned property and disinfestation was carried out by Officers of the Department.

During the year 99 visits and inspections were made of the furniture and effects of persons to be rehoused in Council Houses and requisitioned premises. Visits and inspections were also made on occasions when the interchange of tenants in Council Houses took place.

It was not found necessary to carry out disinfestation in any instances, but in two cases washing and cleansing of bedding was required.

11. Offensive Trades

There are two premises in the area which come within the definition of offensive trades, i.e., 2 Rag and Bone Dealers. Six visits were made during the year.

12. Fish Frying Premises

Six visits were paid to the four fish-frying premises situated in the Borough. Conditions at the fish-frying premises continue to reach a reasonable standard of cleanliness.

12. Pig-Keeping, Poultry-Keeping and Rabbit-Keeping

The supervision of premises where pig-keeping, poultry-keeping and rabbit-keeping was carried on has been pursued, and a noticeable feature has been the tendency where poultry are kept to be the cause of rat infestation. Sixteen visits were paid in respect of pig-keeping, and 50 visits were paid in respect of poultry and rabbit-keeping.

13. Shops Acts

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1920.

Under the Shops Act, 1950, 69 visits were made to shops during the year; in relation to lighting, heating and ventilation and general sanitation.

Eighteen notices were served in this connection, of which eleven had been complied with at the end of the year.

The administration of the Employment of Young Persons Act is also carried out by the Department, under which 4 inspections were made.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	30	30	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	91	152	6	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises). 1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	122	182	8	—

† *i.e.* Electrical Stations [Section 103(1)], Institutions. (Section 104 and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5) By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	1	—	—
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	5	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	2	—	—
TOTAL	8	12	1	—

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110		Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (6)	Prosecutions served (7) (8)
<div> <div> <div>Making, etc.</div> <div> <div>Wearing apparel {</div> <div>Cleaning and washing Household linen</div> <div>Lace, lace curtains and nets</div> <div>Curtains and furniture hangings</div> <div>Furniture and upholstery</div> <div>Electro-plate</div> <div>File making</div> <div>Brass and brass articles</div> <div>Fur pulling</div> <div>Iron and steel cables and chains,</div> <div>Iron and steel anchors and grapnels</div> <div>Cart gear</div> <div>Locks, latches and keys</div> <div>Umbrellas, etc.</div> <div>Artificial flowers</div> <div>Nets, other than wire nets</div> </div> </div> </div>	4				
	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

OUTWORK—continued
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (6)	Notices served (7)	Prosecutions (8)
(1)						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.. .. .						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolate and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	4					

SECTION D

HOUSING

General details with regard to inspection of dwelling houses are submitted in the following tabular form :—

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

Traditional Type Brick Houses	...	...	12
Two bedroom maisonettes	...	...	10
Three bedroom maisonettes	...	...	4
One bedroom flats	...	...	14
One bedroom Bungalows	...	...	16

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year

(i) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	220
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	...	...	...	...	599
(ii) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and 1932	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	...	...	...	Nil
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	12

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	12
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—			
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
	(a) By owners	... ..	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—			
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		2
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
	(a) By owners	... ..	1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—			
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—			
(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	Nil
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936

During the year 5 complaints with regard to overcrowding were investigated by the Department. All cases were referred to the Housing Department for attention.

5. Reconditioning of Houses

12 houses were rendered fit in consequence of informal action.

6. Housing Programme

The undermentioned table, supplied by the Corporation Housing Department, sets out details with regard to applications for housing accommodation and the number rehoused at 31st December, 1951.

1. APPLICATIONS

(a) Total number of applications on Housing Register as at 31st December, 1951	...	...	...	691
(83 per cent. of the above are from ex-Service men.)				
(b) Applications from non-residents	...	...	...	205
(c) Applicants working in Bexhill, but living out of the Borough	...	...	...	54

2. RE-HOUSED

(a) Total number of families re-housed by the Com- mittee since June, 1945	...	...	...	718
(b) Of the above, 85 per cent. have been ex-Servicemen.				

3. THE BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR 1952 is as follows :

- (a) 18 One bedroom Bungalows.
- (b) 88 Houses.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

A total of 52 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors to dealers' premises and dairies during 1951.

REGISTRATIONS

The accompanying table gives details of the registrations effected and the licences issued during the year:—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938-49
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949
Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949
and the
Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1949—REGISTRATIONS :

Certificate of Registration of Dairy	7
Certificate of registration of Distributor	8

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED) REGULATIONS, 1949—LICENCES :

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised "	2
Dealer's Supplementary Licence in respect of Pasteurised Milk	5

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949—LICENCES :

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested "	4
Dealer's Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested "	4

NON-GRADED AND ACCREDITED MILK

There are two producer-retailers retailing this class of milk within the Borough, with farm premises situated outside the area. 14 samples were taken, of which 2 samples were found to be unsatisfactory.

PASTEURISED MILK

There are six suppliers retailing this grade of milk within the Borough. In two instances the pasteurising plant is situated in the Borough boundary, and in three instances the milk supplies are obtained from plants outside the area. The remaining supplier obtains milk from one of the local plants.

The supplies of Pasteurised Milk have continued to be satisfactory, and the standard of the past three years has been maintained.

A total of 57 samples of this grade of milk were taken, and only 3 samples were found to be unsatisfactory.

TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK

(i) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)

There are five dealers in the Borough who supply graded milks under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

Twenty-five samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk were obtained, and upon examination all were found to be satisfactory.

(ii) Tuberculin Tested (Certified)

Seventeen samples of this grade of milk were obtained, of which three were found to be unsatisfactory.

During the year a total of 113 samples of milk of various grades were obtained, of these only eight, or 7 per cent., were found to be unsatisfactory.

(b) Food Poisoning

There were no confirmed outbreaks of food poisoning within the Borough.

One suspected case was investigated and various foods were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton (Director, Dr. J. E. Jameson). Food poisoning organisms were not isolated.

(c) Food Inspection

The inspection of food premises and method of food handling have been pursued with unrelenting vigour. The Department have at all times invited suggestions from the traders in an effort to maintain the high standard which exists in the district.

TABLE 10
MILK SAMPLES TAKEN

Non-Graded Milk		Graded Milks							
Examined by Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests		Accredited		Pasteurised		Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)		Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	
Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
—	—	12	2	54	3	25	—	14	3

TABLE 11
SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO MEAT
AND OTHER FOODS

						Total weight.	
						lbs.	ozs.
Meat							
Beef	..	..	..	..	..	23	6
Sheep's Liver	..	..	..	..	..	4	10
Back Fat	..	..	..	..	..	19	0
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	3	0
						<hr/>	
Tinned Meat							50 0
Chopped Pork	..	..	..	..	..	7	4
Minced Beef Loaf	..	..	..	..	..	4	9
Veal and Ham Loaf	..	..	..	..	..	1	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Luncheon Meat	..	..	..	..	..	108	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork Brawn	..	..	..	..	..	2	9
Corned Beef	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Jellied Veal	..	..	..	..	..	27	0
Corned Mutton	..	..	..	..	..		12
Stewed Steak	..	..	..	..	..	7	0
Chicken	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
Sausages	..	..	..	..	..	29	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tongue	..	..	..	..	..		12
Turkey	..	..	..	..	..	8	0
Rabbit	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Ham	..	..	..	..	..	542	6
						<hr/>	
Miscellaneous							744 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sweets	..	..	..	..	..	76	0
Sponge Mixture	..	..	..	..	..	38	0
Pudding Mixture	..	..	..	..	..	3	0
Jelly	..	..	..	..	..	38	2
Soup Powder	..	..	..	..	..		2
Flour	..	..	..	..	..	39	0
Bisto	..	..	..	..	..	4	8
Ice-cream	..	..	..	..	..		12
Fruit Salad	..	..	..	..	..	5	8
Sourcrout	..	..	..	..	..	49	0
Cereal	..	..	..	..	..	10	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cheese Spread	..	..	..	..	..		14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	3	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Biscuits	..	..	..	..	..	6	8
Sauce	..	..	..	..	..		14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Christmas Pudding	..	..	..	..	..	1	0

Sultanas	27	0		
Bottled Fruit	3	4		
Eggs	5	10		
	<hr/>		314	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tinned Fish	12	9 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Fresh Fish	—	—		
	<hr/>		12	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Miscellaneous Tinned Goods	871	10 $\frac{3}{4}$		
	<hr/>		871	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
	<hr/>		1,993	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Disposal

Returned to Hastings Depot	50	0
Animal Feeding	1,943	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/>	
	£1,993	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

TABLE 12
CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	—
All diseases except T.B. Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than T.B.	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only : whole car- cases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 13
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Adulteration

The East Sussex County Council is the Authority for the administration of this sub-section, and the following information has been received from that Authority:—

Article	Number of Samples Taken		Genuine		Adulterated or otherwise irregular	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Milk	2	29	2	28	—	1
Whisky	—	2	—	2	—	—
Pork sausage meat ..	1	1	1	1	—	—
Dressed crab	1	1	—	—	1	1
Pork sausages	—	1	—	1	—	—
Beef sausage meat ..	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cooked meat savoury	1	—	1	—	—	—
Chicken soup	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sponge mixture	—	1	—	1	—	—
Charcoal biscuits ..	—	1	—	1	—	—
Lemonade	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tomato sauce	—	1	—	1	—	—
Fondant	—	1	—	1	—	—
Bottled blackberries..	—	1	—	1	—	—
Picallili	—	1	—	1	—	—
Plain flour	—	1	—	1	—	—
Self-raising flour ..	—	1	—	1	—	—
Fish dressing.. ..	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pure pepper	—	1	—	1	—	—
Jelly cream	—	1	—	1	—	—
Honey	—	1	—	1	—	—

Remarks

The two samples of dressed crab were reported by the Public Analyst as being deficient in crab meat. Further investigation by him on a third sample showed that these samples were, in fact, genuine although composed of the inferior and less nutritious parts of the crab.

The sample of milk reported as irregular was a sample of Jersey milk 10% deficient in fat although not watered. A formal "follow-up" sample was genuine and of the required standard for fat.

Ice Cream

Seventy-three samples were submitted for examination, with the following results: Grade 1, 42; Grade 2, 11; Grade 3, 13; Grade 4, 7.

In assessing the hygienic quality of ice cream it is generally accepted that the product should attain either Grade 1 or 2.

The results show that of the samples taken during the year 1951, 72.6% satisfied the requirements of Grades 1 and 2, as compared with 66.6% during the year 1950. It is interesting to note that 64.5% of the samples taken during the year 1949 came within these categories. These figures show a steady improvement during the past three years.

Seventeen samples of ice cream were taken in order to ascertain the quality of the product which was based on a fat control standard of 5%. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

Strict supervision is given to premises where ice cream is handled; 136 visits for sampling and inspection were paid during the year.

Number of manufacturing premises: 4.

Number of registered retail premises: 91.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The total number of notifications received during the year was 516 (468 in 1950), 350 being measles and 110 whooping cough. There were no deaths, thanks to modern therapy, and no special emergency measures were called for. Only one case of each was admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

There were no notifications of infantile paralysis or food poisoning. Diphtheria again was conspicuous by its absence and there has been but one case in the Borough during the past five years.

TABLE 14

Disease	Notifications received	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	110	1	—
Measles ...	350	1	—
Scarlet Fever ...	40	6	—
Pneumonia ...	10	—	2
Erysipelas ...	3	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	—	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Totals ...	516	9	2

Vaccination

Twenty-five sessions of Vaccination were held during the year, the following table giving particulars of the number of persons vaccinated and re-vaccinated either at the Clinic or by their own doctor.

TABLE 15

NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (or re-vaccinated) DURING YEAR 1951

Age at date of Vaccination	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	227	90	385	478	1180
Number Re-Vaccinated	—	44	617	1635	2296

NUMBER OF CASES SPECIALLY REPORTED DURING PERIOD (age groups as above)

(a) Generalised Vaccinia	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Post-vaccinal Encephalo-myelitis	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Death from complications of vaccination other than (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	—

The numbers of vaccination and re-vaccination for the previous year were 240 and 211, and the great increases were due to, as pointed out earlier in the report, the Brighton epidemic of Virulent Smallpox.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Twenty sessions for Innoculation were held during the year, and particulars of the number dealt with there, and including those dealt with by private practitioners, are shown in the following table.

TABLE 16

	Under 5 years	Over 5 years
Number of children who completed the full course during the year	220	25
Number of children who received a Reinforcing dose	—	525
Percentage of the child population fully immunised at 31st December, 1951	61.3	86.3
(The numbers for 1950 were 62.2% and 74.5%)		

For children under five years 61.5%, while fairly good, is not yet good enough, as the value of diphtheria immunisation cannot be too highly stressed. The aim is at least 90% and until that figure is reached the position remains somewhat disturbing. The figure for reinoculation, 86.3%, is most satisfactory.

Cancer

The number of deaths certified as being due to Cancer was 82, 41 males and 41 females, as compared with 84 in 1950.

Tuberculosis

During 1951, formal notifications under the Regulations were received in respect of 25 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 3 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In addition 10 cases were brought to the notice of the Department from the following sources :—

Death notified	Returns ...	of cases ...	not ...	previously ...	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
					3	—
Transfers from other areas					7	—
Cases restored to Register					—	—

The following table shows the total number of cases coming to the notice of the Department, by primary notification during the year, together with the total number of deaths classified into age groups :—

TABLE 17

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	3	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
35—45	3	3	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—55	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	13	12	1	2	4	2	—	—

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1951 was as follows :—

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	51	47	98
Non-Pulmonary	7	7	14
	58	54	112

The visit of the East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit in October resulted in a number of unsuspected cases coming to light and accounting mainly for the increase in the register from 83 to 112, together with the 10 cases mentioned above (3 deaths and 7 transfers). It is hoped that the Unit will be able to pay a return visit in the future, although the main difficulty is the one of securing satisfactory and adequate premises. The total number of persons availing themselves of the facilities was 2,799.

Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have pleasure in submitting my annual report for the year 1951.

Last year I stated the year under review, 1950, had not been an eventful one. To the year 1951 a similar description may be applied in so far as the work of the Sanitary Section goes. The multifarious duties which fall to the lot of the Sanitary Inspector have been undertaken with zest and interest. In the past years it has been possible to make comment on some highlight of the year's work, but on perusal of the work undertaken I cannot pick out anything particularly outstanding.

The supervision and control of public conveniences in the town has again been passed to the Department from the Borough Surveyor's. It was in 1938 that this work was transferred from the Public Health Department to the Borough Surveyor's Department. This recent transfer has added five members to the personnel of the Department.

Additional legislation which affected the work of the Department were the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and the Rag Flock and Other Filling Material Act, 1951.

Table 18 gives some idea of the many aspects of the work undertaken, a particular feature being the number of visits and inspections made in connection with housing—850. The number of complaints received and dealt with was 842, compared with 837 in 1950.

Food inspection in its varying phrases has been pursued, 476 visits being made to various premises.

Problems still to be undertaken in the future are the general conditions at Pebsham and Normans Bay.

The cesspool problem still remains, although some progress has been made with the sewage schemes, which should make towards their abolition in due course.

The accompanying tables set out the nature and scope of the work carried out by the Department during the course of the year.

TABLE 18

Houses inspected, P.H.A.	...	...	..	...	...	220
Visits re above	...	...	...	...	...	599
Houses inspected, H.A.	...	...	...	...	...	31
Visits re above	...	...	...	..	...	5
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	32

Water supply	2
Water Samples procured :	
(a) Well Supply	1
(b) Main Supply	9
(c) Swimming Baths	14
Smoke abatement	3
Schools	2
Moveable dwellings	70
Offensive Trades	1
Rag and bone dealers	—
Stables and piggeries	16
Poultry keeping	50
Fried fish shops	6
Factories, mechanical power	152
Factories, non mechanical power	30
Workplaces, general	5
Offices	2
Outworkers	5
Shops Acts, 1950	69
Bakehouses	28
Public conveniences	91
Theatres, cinemas, etc.	4
Rats and mice	3,025
Drainage, general	882
Drainage testing by :	
(a) Smoke	55
(b) Water	119
(c) Colour	16
(d) Breaking Down	18
Other sanitary visits	356
Ash receptacles	18
Works in progress	153
Interviews	106
Licensed premises	—
Smoke Observations	1
Miscellaneous	215
Knackers' Yard	1
Butchers' shops	70
Cesspools	53
Fishmongers, poulterers	17
Greengrocers, fruiterers	12
Cowsheds	18
Dairies and milkshops	52
Ice cream premises	55
Ice cream sampling	81
Milk samples	133
Food preparing premises	17
Food and Drugs Act	15
Cafes and Hotel kitchens	151

Other food visits	83
Grocers	131
I.D. and disinfection	261
Disinfestation, general	98
Disinfestation, bugs etc.	101
	<hr/>
	7,760
	<hr/>

COMPLAINTS

1947	1,239
1948	633
1949	735
1950	837
1951	842

TABLE 19

Condition of premises	20
Housing defects	44
Overcrowding	10
Dampness	27
Water supply	6
Drains and sanitary fittings	55
Public Urinals	1
Verminous premises	6
Keeping of animals	13
Accumulation of refuse, etc	15
Rats and mice	483
Milk and dairies	4
Absence of sanitary dustbins	3
Food premises	1
Food	52
Movable Dwellings	3
Smoke Nuisance	1
Cesspools	5
Miscellaneous	93
	<hr/>
	842
	<hr/>

SANITARY DEFECTS AND NOTICES

TABLE 20

Statutory Notices served during 1951	3
Statutory Notices complied with during 1951	—
Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1951	3
Informal Notices served during 1951	307
Informal Notices complied with during 1951	227
Informal Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1951	80

HOUSE INSPECTION AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Twelve houses were rendered fit as the result of informal action.

Turkey Road Clearance Area

This area consisted of four houses and the Order was confirmed on the 12th June, 1939.

These premises have now been demolished and the area cleared.

The following table shows the sanitary improvements effected during the year.

TABLE 21

Drains entirely reconstructed	23
Drains repaired	21
New branch drains	14
Inspection chambers reconstructed	19
Additional inspection chambers provided	12
Soil or ventilation pipes renewed and fixed	13
Choked drains	15
New frames and cover fitted to existing inspection chambers	7
Defective waste pipes	12
Cesspools emptied	12
Choked gullies	1
Defective and overflowing cesspools	20
Defective W.C. pans	6
Defective W.C. flushing cisterns	8
Defective W.C. seats	7
New sinks fitted	7
New W.C. pans fitted	7
Lavatory basins fixed	20
New baths fixed	11
Insanitary and defective sinks	6
Surround to sink renewed	1
Defective yard paving	7
Absence of paved approach	3
Defective roofs	59
Defective and dangerous chimney stacks	2
Defective eaves gutters	11
Defective rain water pipes	10
Defective down spouts	9
Defective pointing	4
Defective sashes and frames	32
Defective sills to doors or windows	7
Defective floors	11
Defective plaster to walls	41
Defective plaster to ceilings	31
Defective internal walls	3
Defective external walls	2
Defective fireplaces and grates	13

Defective doors and cupboards	..	..	..	..	..	3
Defective chimney flues	..	..	..	..	..	10
Defective air bricks	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective fresh air inlet	..	..	..	..	..	1
Walls requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	20
Ceilings requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	18
Dampness, general	..	..	..	..	..	24
Dampness of walls	..	..	..	..	..	30
Insufficient ventilation of rooms	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	..	16
Accumulation of manure/refuse	..	..	..	..	..	12
Ditches requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	1
Keeping of animals	..	..	..	..	..	2
Overgrown land	..	..	..	..	..	3
Vermin..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	56

TABLE 22
ARTICLES DISINFECTED OR DESTROYED, 1951

Article	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Wearing Apparel ..	4	3	—	29	—	—	70	3	7	—	5	—
Uniform Cloth'g	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—
Bed Covers	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	5	8	12	2	2
Mattresses ..	2	9	13	7	4	4	5	6	—	2	3	—
Feather Beds	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
Eiderdowns	—	3	—	2	—	1	1	3	1	2	2	3
Bolsters ..	2	2	4	2	—	1	5	1	—	3	1	—
Pillows ..	4	14	16	22	1	3	20	22	27	28	17	11
Blankets ..	1	15	22	4	4	3	80	19	26	18	—	6
Sheets ..	2	2	5	5	1	3	9	7	4	—	4	—
Miscellaneous	—	13	4	5	1	—	—	7	14	—	16	15
Totals ..	16	64	72	77	11	15	195	73	93	66	52	39

TABLE 23
ROOMS FUMIGATED

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	—	3	5	4	1	5	3	—	—	3	2	1
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer ..	3	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	8	2	1	1
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	4	—	4	—	3
Acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polionyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Vermis ..	—	—	—	—	7	—	3	—	13	6	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	18	—	—	—
Totals ..	3	7	6	8	8	6	6	6	39	15	3	5

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year 182 visits were paid to factories, workshops and work-places, eight notices being served. Eight notices had been complied

The following details are of the items contained in the notices complied with:—

Defective W.C. seat and cistern	I
Dirty walls and ceilings	4
Absence of suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences	I
Contrary to Article 6 of Sanitary Accommodation Regulations regarding separate conveniences ..	I
Absence of artificial lighting and conveniences not indicated by suitable notice	I

DISINFECTION AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Steam disinfection of bedding, clothing and other articles is carried out at the Disinfection Station, situated at St. Mary's Lane, Bexhill.

No. of rooms disinfected	112
No. of articles disinfected and destroyed ..	773
No. of visits paid	261

RODENT CONTROL

Dwellinghouses and Business Premises

This necessary phase of environmental hygiene has been maintained at a high level of efficiency.

No. of complaints received	Rats	Mice	Total
1951	310	173	483
1950	—	—	545
Total number of visits paid			
1951	3,025		
1950	1,985		

Farm Premises

The responsibility for dealing with rodent infestation on agricultural premises is now undertaken by the Local Authority. A census of such premises has been prepared and there are 28 premises in the area which come within this definition.

Work of disinfection has been commenced, two farms having been treated, involving 10 visits.

A number of farms are treated by the staff of the County Agricultural Committee.

Sewers

The annual test baiting of the sewers was carried out; 86 manholes were baited, being approximately 10% of those in the area, i.e. 854.

The test showed that the sewer system was free from rat infestation.

St. Mary's Lane Refuse Tip

Periodic visits were made to the refuse tip at St. Mary's Lane. Only one minor infestation was found.

CONCLUSION

On consideration of the facts and figures placed before you in the report I am sure that the standard of work has been maintained. Whilst nothing of a spectacular nature has been undertaken, routine matters have been pursued assiduously and with intent.

The advent of an additional Sanitary Inspector in August will do much to further the work of sanitary inspection in the Borough.

Mr. C. E. Lockley has again rendered willing assistance and loyalty. To him and all members of the staff I say thank you. We have worked as a team and I feel that something has been achieved.

Dr. R. J. Toleman has given me much help and encouragement. To be able to approach him on all occasions and to have discussion in a friendly atmosphere goes a long way towards making a difficult job of work more congenial.

May I tender my sincere thanks to Councillor Mrs. J. O. Alexander for her ready assistance and to the members of the Public Health Committee for their support and co-operation.

The assistance I have received from my fellow officials has been much appreciated. I have endeavoured to reciprocate whenever possible and I hope that I have in some measure succeeded.

W. H. BALL,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

